

## Washington State Department of Agriculture

## News Release

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## **Media Alert**

## Many options under consideration for control of citrus longhorned beetle

OLYMPIA – Contrary to some news stories, no decision has been made to remove trees in the Tukwila area and no request for a Governor's declaration of emergency has been made by the state Department of Agriculture. Officials are considering many options to control the citrus longhorned beetle including:

- Extensive surveys for evidence of damage caused by beetle feeding.
- Select removal of trees the beetle is most likely to infest.
- Inoculation of older and larger trees with a systemic pesticide.
- A state quarantine to regulate movement of high risk items, such as firewood or scraps from tree pruning, out of the area to prevent the infestation from being carried to another area.
- A combined program with the U.S. Department of Agriculture that would give the state access to federal personnel and resources to combat citrus longhorned beetles.

Decisions on which options will be used will be made after further evaluation of the situation and consultation with experts and affected parties.

For information about these options, call Brad White, managing entomologist at (360) 664-0905 or Clinton Campbell, pest program manager, at (360) 902-2071.

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